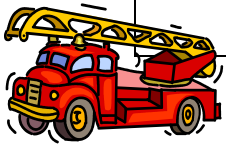


WELCOME
TO
ST. THOMAS
EARLY LEARNING CENTER



Your Friday Newsletter from St. Thomas Early Learning Center

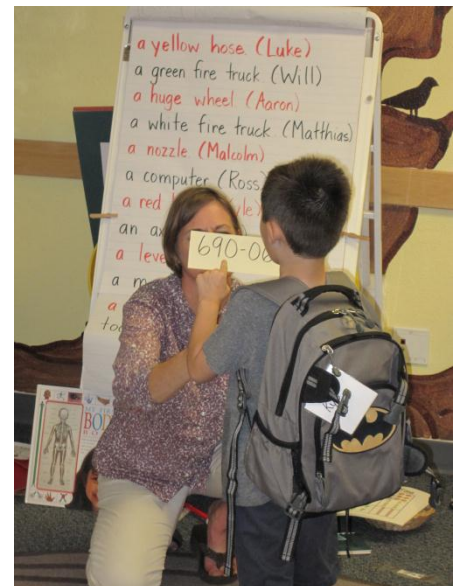
October 28, 2011



Kindergarteners went to **the Fire Station** on Monday and had a Wonderful Field Trip!

KBTX News was there to film these 20 children learning safety and emergency preparedness, which is now featured on their website called "Gem of the Day." Go to gemoftoday@kbtx.com and search for October 24 to see a short clip.

Here, Mrs. Lawrence coaches as Kyle practices memorizing his phone number.



Mrs. Sagong sits with Luke as he tells her what he has written in his Daily Journal.

A Parenting Class just for you!

The Autism Spectrum: What does it look like in a young child??

A personal perspective from a Mom who has two children with this diagnosis.

Join us for this hour to hear Mrs. Sarah Foster discuss her personal experiences, and tell us ways that she has found to create success in their family life.

Mrs. Foster spoke to us last Fall and many parents have asked that she be invited to speak again. It will be a valuable hour for ALL parents.

Babysitting Service will be provided in the Nursery.

NOTE: WE ARE PROVIDING THESE PARENTING WORKSHOPS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR PARENTS & COMMUNITY. ANYONE IS WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.

November 14

7:00 – 8:00 PM

Parish Hall

Assistant Teacher, Andrea Merritt reads

Stellaluna on a cozy couch to a few Lunch Bunchers.



Jennifer Downs, also Assistant Teacher and

Lunch Bunch Teacher, helps

Caiden get his tool belt just right!

Macaroni & Cheese



“Sharing with others at Thanksgiving”

Mrs. Skow “Why do you think we should help others and share our blessings with them?”

Luke “*Because that’s what God likes for us to do!*”

Need I say more? Please begin sending in boxes of Mac & Cheese to your child’s teacher beginning November 7. This is our Fall Service Project, reminding us all what **being thankful** is all about.

UPDATE ON THE FORT!



As of today, the school has received \$2,380 in donations towards the goal of \$3,000.

Many thanks to parents, Board members, and teachers for helping us raise these funds to rebuild the fort. Children love to climb! Children **NEED** to climb! **We need your help to collect all that is needed to build a wonderful and safe new climbing structure.** Please send in your tax-deductible gift today. *On behalf of the children.....Thank You!*

Picture Re-Takes will be Monday, November 7 beginning 9:00 a.m. for all children who missed or need a picture retake.

If you have a child who only comes on Tuesday-Thursday, and you want a picture taken, please bring them by the school between 9 and 10 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 7. These beautiful school pictures are taken by Scott at Brenham Portrait Gallery, and he does a wonderful job of capturing the children’s expressions in a natural way. He will also do a sibling portrait if you ask him. He will not be coming on Tues, so plan to do this Monday morning if you want one.

Pre-Kindergarteners practice a one-minute Weather Safety Drill in the hallway of the Old Silvey House.





Lessons in the Sandbox



Remember finding

JEWELS ?



Sandbox Treasures!



(shhhh! We have a **sandbox fairy** who buries these treasures for us.)



Empty Bowls Project

Saturday, November 12th 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

The Frame Gallery 216 N. Bryan Ave.

Bryan, TX 77803 979-822-0496

All Proceeds go to the Brazos Valley Food Bank

These are *BEAUTIFUL!*

For a minimum of \$15 donation, you will receive a simple lunch of soup, bread and water. You will also have the pleasure of selecting a bowl from hundreds of one-of-a-kind, handcrafted bowls donated by area potters and craft artists. The empty bowls will serve as a reminder of all the empty bowls in our community and around the world.

*Our Kindergarten students all created an empty bowl with the assistance of Valerie Woodcock from **U-Paint-It**. Everything was donated by **U-Paint-It** for this worthwhile project.*

Thanks, Valerie!

Parents: You will be receiving a **two-page survey** next week which is required for the renewal of our NAEYC Accreditation status. Please complete it within one week, and return it to our school office. Thank you.



Candy Tithe

The fun and excitement of Halloween are fast approaching! For some of our precious St. Thomas ELC and St. Thomas church kids thoughts about costumes and candy have been front and center for weeks! Let's make this Halloween season meaningful as well as fun. Please consider a "candy tithe". This year the church and the school will be asking all kids to share a portion of their candy with agencies that help low income families. For lots of families candy is a rarely seen luxury. Please work with your children to share a portion of the candy they collect. A candy tithe can be a great way to teach kids about sharing and sacrifice. On Wednesday and Thursday November 2nd and 3rd the candy collection will be blessed in our ELC chapel services. The candy will then be distributed through the Food Bank, the Brazos Church Pantry, and St. Thomas' own mobile food pantry.The Reverend Rhoda Montgomery